

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6790

As of February 11, 2002

Title: An act relating to authorizing the increase of personal use shellfish license fees to fund biotoxin testing and monitoring by the department of health of beaches used for recreational shellfishing.

Brief Description: Increasing personal use shellfish license fees.

Sponsors: Senators Spanel and Gardner.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Ways & Means: 2/11/02.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

Staff: Richard Ramsey (786-7412)

Background: To ensure the health of consumers, the Department of Health's (DOH) Environmental Health Program conducts testing and monitoring for biotoxins of shellfish from both commercial beds and beaches used by recreational shellfishers. The funding source for this program is the state general fund.

Summary of Bill: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is directed to include a surcharge on recreational shellfish and seaweed licenses to cover the cost of the DOH biotoxin testing and monitoring of recreational shellfish beaches. DOH is authorized to establish by rule this surcharge. The following table provides the current shellfish license schedule:

License Type	Subtype	Fee
Shellfish	Resident	\$7
Shellfish	Non-resident	\$20
Shellfish	Senior Resident	\$5
Shellfish 2-day	Resident/Non-resident	\$6
Combo SW/FW/SF	Resident	\$36
Combo SW/FW/SF	Non-resident	\$72
Combo SW/FW/SF	Disabled/Veteran	\$5
Combo SW/FW/SF	Youth	\$5
Combo SW/FW/SF 2-Day	Resident/Non-resident	\$6

The surcharge takes effect in the license year beginning April 1, 2003.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on February 5, 2002.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.